

Gola language

Gola is an erstwhile Atlantic language of Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Classification

Gola is not closely related to other languages and appears to form its own branch of the Niger–Congo language family.^[3] However, *Ethnologue* lists Gola as a Mel language. Fields (2004) classifies Gola as a Mel language most closely related to Bullom and Kisi.^[4]

Distribution

According to *Ethnologue*, Gola is spoken in widespread regions across Liberia. It is spoken in Gbarpolu County, Grand Cape Mount County, and Lofa County (between the Mano River and Saint Paul River), as well as in inland areas of Bomi County and Montserrado County.

Dialects are Deng (Todii), Kongba, and Senje.

References

1. Gola (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/gol/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Gola" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/gola1255>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Guillaume Segerer & Florian Lionnet 2010. "'Isolates' in 'Atlantic'" (http://25images.ish-lyon.cnrs.fr/player/player.php?id=72&id_sequence=431) Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20120331180907/http://25images.ish-lyon.cnrs.fr/player/player.php?id=72&id_sequence=431) March 31, 2012, at the Wayback Machine. *Language Isolates in Africa* workshop, Lyon, Dec. 4
4. Fields, Edda L. Before "Baga": Settlement Chronologies of the Coastal Rio Nunez Region, Earliest Times to c.1000 CE (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/4129008>). In: *The International Journal of African Historical Studies*, Vol. 37, No. 2 (2004), pp. 229-253. Boston University African Studies Center.

Gola	
Native to	Western Liberia & along the border with Sierra Leone
Ethnicity	Gola
Native speakers	(110,000 cited 1989–1991) ^[1]
Language family	<div>Niger–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Atlantic–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gola</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	gol
Glottolog	gola1255 (http://glottolog.org/resource/lan guoid/id/gola1255) ^[2]

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